be deputed to check the quality of foodgrains before lifting from the FCI godowns.

(iii) The samples of foodgrains are jointly drawn and sealed by the officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the FCI during the issue of stocks from FCI godowns for display at the counters of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

(iv) The officers of the State Governments/UT Administrations and the Department of Food & Public Distribution of the Ministry make surprise checks of the FPSs, to over see the quality of foodgrains being distributed through PDS.

(v) The officers of the Department designated as 'Area Officers' for monitoring the PDS work in the respective States/UTs also undertake visits to the storage depots and the FPSs, during their visit to the States/UTs to check the quality of foodgrains being issued.

Corruption in FCI

†1999. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that discrimination and corruption on large scale prevail in the Food Corporation of India in regard to supply of foodgrains to the fair price shops; and

(b) the details of the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOODAND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) does not supply foodgrains to Fair Price Shops directly. The FCI allocates foodgrains to the State Government or its nominated agencies who lift the foodgrains from FCI depots and further issue the foodgrains to Fair Price Shops.

(b) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.